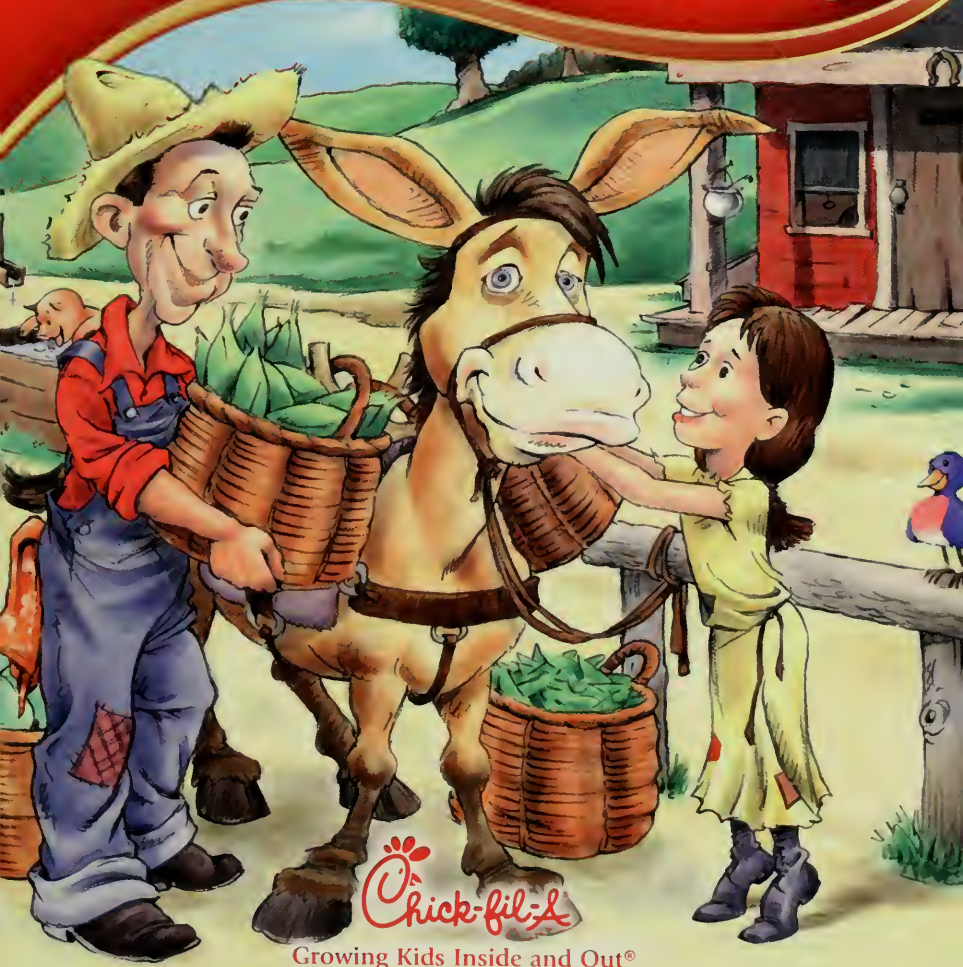


Between  
the Lions



# The Farmer, His Daughter, and Their Donkey



Chick-fil-A

Growing Kids Inside and Out®

# Get Wild About Reading Together!

This book is based on a fable, written around 620 B.C. by a Greek storyteller named Aesop. He wrote fables to entertain and guide people; each one has a “moral,” or lesson, at the end. For centuries, parents the world over have enjoyed sharing Aesop’s fables with their children. Try a few of these ideas each time you read the story together.

## Before You Read

Tell your children the title of the story. Talk about what’s in the picture on the cover. Flip through the pictures inside. Ask your children what they think the story will be about. What do they think will happen to the farmer, his daughter, and the donkey?

## While You Read

Your children might enjoy reading along with the first line of the refrain each time it appears: “Hi-ho! Hee-hee! Fiddle-dee-dee!”

Stop from time to time to talk about what’s happening in the story

and how it compares with your children’s predictions.

You may also want to pause to explain unfamiliar words and phrases, such as:

- pods of peas
- clatter of wheels
- noses upturned
- acrobats
- snickered and sneered
- returned the favor

## After You Read

Invite children to retell the story in their own words. This helps build their understanding of the characters and events. They also learn to focus on the main ideas. You can guide their storytelling and understanding by asking:

- What happened at the beginning of the story?
- What happened in the middle of the story?
- What happened at the end?
- Why did the farmer decide that listening to all the other people was a mistake?

## Words to Watch

Children who can read simple stories on their own are still likely to have trouble with the tricky spellings of many words. For example, in the word *daughter* the *gh* is silent, but in the word *laughter* the *gh* has an *f* sound. This story contains several words with the letters *gh*, such as *tight*, *enough*, *neighbors*, *laughed*, *sight*, *brought*, *weight*, *higher*, and *thought*. Together, look for these words, say them aloud, and notice how each is spelled.



# The Farmer, His Daughter, and Their Donkey

Retold by Mary Weber  
Illustrated by Steve Haeefele

Editorial Consultants Beth Kirsch, Linda Rath, Elizabeth Jones  
Managing Art Editor Tom Gawle  
Designers Tim Carls, Mike Hopkins

BETWEEN THE LIONS is produced by WGBH Boston and Sirius Thinking, Ltd., in association with Mississippi Public Broadcasting. BETWEEN THE LIONS is funded in part by a Ready-To-Learn Television Cooperative Agreement from the US Department of Education through the Public Broadcasting Service. National corporate sponsorship is provided by Chick-fil-A, Inc.

© 2005 WGBH Educational Foundation and Sirius Thinking, Ltd. Between the Lions, Get Wild About Reading, and the BTL characters and related indicia are Trademarks or Registered Trademarks of WGBH Educational Foundation. PBS KIDS is a Registered Trademark of the Public Broadcasting Service. Used with permission.


Photos: John E. Barrett, Chrystie Sherman

"Chick-fil-A," the "Chick-fil-A" logo and "Growing Kids Inside and Out" are Registered Trademarks of CFA Properties, Inc. Words and images of THE FARMER, HIS DAUGHTER, AND THEIR DONKEY Copyright © 2005 Frederic Thomas Inc., Naples, Florida.

All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Convention. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the copyright owners. Published in the United States by Frederic Thomas Inc.

Printed in U.S.A. All rights reserved.


FREDERIC THOMAS INC.  
Produced by Frederic Thomas Inc., Naples, Florida. Tel: 239-593-8000



Today's story is about  
a farmer, his daughter,  
and a donkey.

And a trip that  
didn't go exactly  
as planned.

The Farmer, His Daughter,  
and Their Donkey

A photograph of two anthropomorphic rabbits in a library. The rabbit on the left is looking towards the right with a curious expression. The rabbit on the right is wearing a teal and white striped shirt and is speaking. In the background, a brick wall features a plaque with the text 'HISTORICAL - IN F... NT ORP... NO... PT... SCRIPTIO...'.

Ooh, now I want to know what happened.

Me too! Let's read it!



There was once a farmer named Tucker. He lived in a small house in the country with his daughter, Emma. Tucker was a poor man who didn't have much, but he didn't need much. He was easy to please and happy to do what others asked of him.

One day, Tucker was busy loading vegetables on the back of Boots, their little donkey. Tucker and Emma planned to take the vegetables to market and sell them.



There were ears of corn, pods of peas, and big heads of cabbage. The money that they made from selling the vegetables would buy them many nice things.

As they prepared for their journey to the village market, they dreamed of things the money would buy. Tucker could use a new warm coat. His was too tight. Emma wanted a new yellow dress. Hers was very old and patched. Even Boots dreamed of a big straw hat that would keep the hot sun off his head.



After all the vegetables were loaded on the donkey's broad back, Tucker led the donkey to the nearby road. He told Emma, "You and I will walk to market. The vegetables are enough for Boots to carry." Then they set out down the road.

The two had not gone far when they met a group of neighbors. All were riding donkeys.





The people pointed at Boots and laughed at the sight of a donkey with no rider. They cried, "Why do you walk when your daughter could ride?"

"Hi-ho! Hee-hee! Fiddle-dee-dee!

This is quite silly, you must agree!"

Tucker did not think it was so silly, but he turned to his daughter and said, "You must be tired, Emma. You should rest your feet." With a boost from her father, Emma climbed atop the donkey and their journey continued.



By and by, the sudden clatter of wheels brought the travelers to a halt. A fancy coach, pulled by two fine horses, drew up beside them. Tucker and Emma could see two grand ladies sitting inside. One spoke loudly to the other as the coach passed by. "Look at that girl! Who does she think she is? She rides while her poor father walks!" Then the other called out to Tucker, "Hi-ho! Hee-hee! Fiddle-dee-dee! Your daughter is hogging the saddle, I see!"



With a final, “Tut! Tut!” and noses upturned, the ladies and coach moved out of sight.

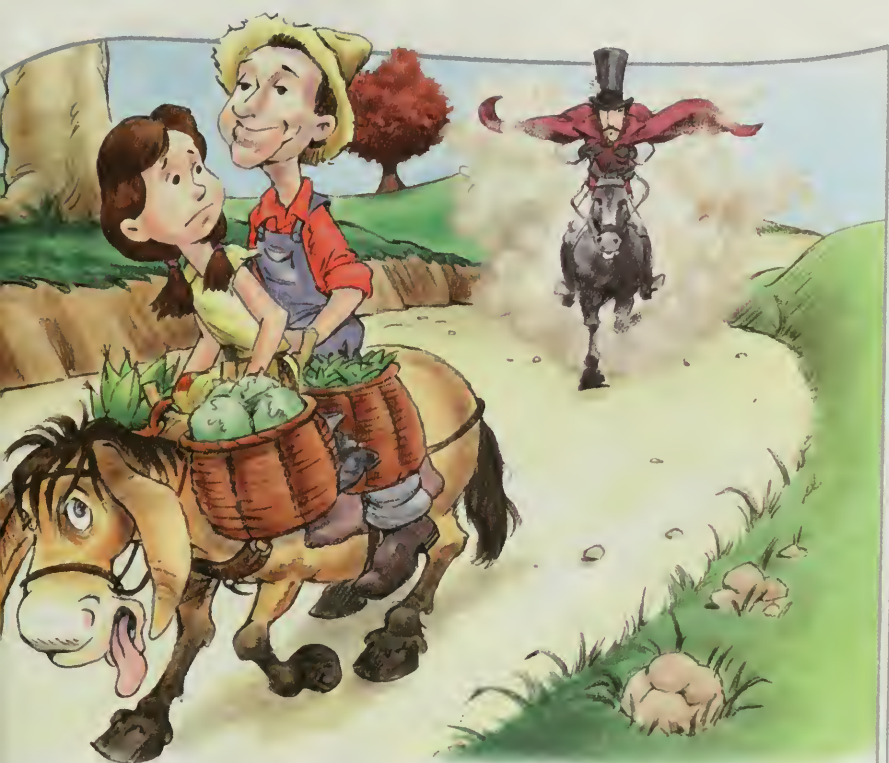
“Oh, father!” said Emma. “I think I’ll walk now so I can pick the pretty flowers along the road. You may ride in my place.” So Emma climbed down, and Tucker climbed up. Despite the added weight, Boots kept up a peppy pace. Clippity-clop, clippity-clop went his hoofs. But Emma was getting tired as the sun grew hotter and hotter.



“Hi-dee-ho, away we go!” Sudden shouts from behind caused both Emma and Tucker to jump in surprise. Traveling acrobats were passing by on their way to the village. As they somersaulted and did cartwheels, they snickered and sneered at the farmer. One called out, “How lazy you are, old man. Your poor daughter cannot keep up with the donkey!”

“Hi-ho! Hee-hee! Fiddle-dee-dee! Your daughter is weary, can’t you see?”

Turning around, Tucker saw that Emma was, indeed, falling farther and farther behind.



Tucker pulled on the reins, "Whoa, Boots!" Then, motioning to Emma, he said. "Come! The donkey can carry us both!" So once again, Emma rode in comfort while Boots struggled to carry two riders instead of only one.

As the sun rose higher in the sky, the donkey's pace slowed. Clip-clop – snort! Clip-clop – snort! Then the sound of thundering hoof beats stopped Boots in his tracks. A dashing nobleman overtook them on the road. He was riding a beautiful horse, which was perfectly groomed. He huffed and puffed with anger when he saw the load that poor Boots carried.



“You are too heavy for that poor beast! How lazy you are! You should be carrying him!”

“Hi-ho! Hee-hee! Fiddle-dee-dee!

Get off that donkey and let him be!”

Then off he rode, his horse kicking up thick clouds of dust along the road. The dust made Boots sneeze, “Hee-choo! Hee-choo!”



With the village, now quite close, Tucker turned to Emma and said, "Boots has been so good to carry us. Let us now return the favor and carry him."

Emma agreed. Then he and his daughter heaved and hoed until Boots sat atop their shoulders.

Staggering with their load, they entered the marketplace. They were greeted with hoots of laughter from one and all.



“Hi-ho! Hee-hee! Fiddle-dee-dee!  
A sillier sight we never did see!”

The noise scared poor Boots, who squiggled and squirmed until he broke loose with a loud, “Hee-haw-hee.” He was free! Off he ran, taking all the vegetables with him. Emma and Tucker watched in horror as Boots ran from the market. “Wait!” they shouted, but Boots did not stop.





Now they had no vegetables to sell, no money to buy the things they dreamed of, and no donkey to carry them home.

Tucker sat and looked at Emma with a long face. "Listening to what others said was my mistake. I should have done what I had planned, and what I thought best," Tucker told Emma. "I hope you'll keep this in mind from now on: **YOU CAN'T SUCCEED IF YOU'RE ALWAYS WORRYING ABOUT WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK.**"



It might have been smoother...

Boy, that was one bumpy ride!

If Tucker had just done what he set out to do.



Dear Valued  
Chick-fil-A®  
Customer:

The people at Chick-fil-A care about the physical and character development of every child we touch with our Kid's Meal Program. It is an expression of our Corporate Purpose to have a positive influence on all who come in contact with Chick-fil-A. We want each and every experience a child has with us to be nourishing, fun, and educational.

As part of the Kid's Meal Program, our "Between the Lions" book series introduces our youngest patrons to classic Aesop's fables. The entire family can enjoy these tales and share the life lessons they teach.

The "Get Wild About Reading Together!" section contains tips for parents on how to make the enjoyment of the books a family activity. "Words to Watch" contains valuable suggestions for how to use the vocabulary presented to add educational value to the shared reading.

As a fellow parent, it is my desire that this series of books provides you with the opportunity to share valuable interaction and reading time with your children.

Sincerely,

Dan T. Cathy  
President & COO Chick-fil-A, Inc.



[www.chick-fil-a.com](http://www.chick-fil-a.com)



## Collect All Five Titles

The Country Mouse  
and the City Mouse

The Woodsman and the  
Amazing Fish

The Donkey and the Dog

The Farmer, His Daughter,  
and Their Donkey

The Crow and the Pitcher



Learn to read.  
Watch TV.

Between  
the Lions



[pbskids.org/lions](http://pbskids.org/lions)

Proudly Sponsored by



Growing Kids Inside and Out®